

App. Serial No.: 10/766,290
Atty. Docket No.: 0059-014P1

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

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1. (currently amended) A communications earpiece comprising:

a transducer enclosure portion;

a transducer housed generally within the transducer enclosure portion;

a sound horn; and

a generally tubular connection member for channeling sound from the transducer enclosure portion to the sound horn; wherein

the connection member has a first adjustment means for allowing rotation of the connection member relative to the transducer enclosure portion; [[and]]

the connection member has a second adjustment means for allowing movement of the sound horn selectively toward and/or away from the transducer enclosure portion and for allowing rotation of the sound horn in relation to the connection member;

the second adjustment means includes a generally hollow cylindrical projection on the sound horn engaging a hollow cylindrical end portion on the connection member;

the second adjustment means includes a retainer having a raised ring on one of the hollow cylindrical projection on the sound horn and the hollow cylindrical end portion on the connection member and a retaining ridge on the other of the hollow cylindrical projection on the sound horn and the hollow cylindrical end portion on the connection member; and

the raised ring abuts the retaining ridge when the sound horn is moved longitudinally away from the connection member such that the retainer facilitates positional adjustment between the sound horn and the connection member but prevents disengagement of the connection member and the sound horn.

App. Serial No.: 10/766,290
Atty. Docket No.: 0059-014P1

2. (original) The communications earpiece of claim 1, wherein:

the first adjustment means includes a generally hollow cylindrical projection on the transducer enclosure and a hollow cylindrical end portion on the connection member.

3. (currently amended) The communications earpiece of claim 2, wherein:

the cylindrical end portion is rotatably affixed to the cylindrical projection of the first adjustment means.

4. (currently amended) The communications earpiece of claim 2, wherein:

the cylindrical end portion is rotatably affixed over the cylindrical projection of the first adjustment means.

5. (canceled)

6. (currently amended) The communications earpiece of ~~claim 5~~ claim 1, wherein:

the cylindrical end portion of the second adjustment means is slidably affixed to the cylindrical projection of the second adjustment means such that the cylindrical end portion can be moved longitudinally along at least a portion of the length of the cylindrical projection.

7. (currently amended) The communications earpiece of ~~claim 5~~ claim 1, wherein:

the cylindrical end portion of the second adjustment means is slidably affixed over the cylindrical projection of the second adjustment means such that the cylindrical end portion can be moved longitudinally along at least a portion of the length of the cylindrical projection.

8. (currently amended) The communications earpiece of ~~claim 2~~ claim 1, wherein:

the cylindrical end portion of the second adjustment means is rotatably affixed to the cylindrical projection of the second adjustment means.

9. (currently amended) The communications earpiece of ~~claim 2~~ claim 1, wherein:

the cylindrical end portion of the second adjustment means is rotatably affixed over the cylindrical projection of the second adjustment means.

App. Serial No.: 10/766,290
Atty. Docket No.: 0059-014P1

Claims 10 - 15. (canceled)

16. (currently amended) The communications earpiece of ~~claim 10~~ claim 1, wherein:
the connection member is bent, such that the connection member can rotate in relation to the transducer enclosure portion about a first axis; and
the sound horn can rotate in relation to the connection member about a second axis.
17. (original) The communications earpiece of claim 1, wherein:
the transducer enclosure portion is adapted for hooking over the top of the user's ear.

App. Serial No.: 10/766,290
Atty. Docket No.: 0059-014P1

18. (currently amended) A communications earpiece, comprising:

a transducer enclosure portion including a first generally hollow projection;

a transducer housed generally within the transducer enclosure portion;

a sound horn including a second generally hollow projection; and

a generally tubular connection member for channeling sound from the transducer enclosure portion to the sound horn;

a first retainer including a raised ring on one of a first end of the connection member and the first hollow projection and a retaining ridge on the other of the first end of the connection member and the first hollow projection;

a second retainer including a raised ring on one of a second end of the connection member and the second hollow projection and a retaining ridge on the other of the first end of the connection member and the second hollow projection; and wherein

~~the transducer enclosure portion has a first generally hollow projection;~~

~~the sound horn has a second generally hollow projection;~~

the connection member is rotatably affixed at ~~[[one]]~~ the first end to the first generally hollow projection; and

the connection member is rotatably affixed at the ~~other~~ second end to the second generally hollow projection; and

the connection member can be moved longitudinally along at least a portion of the length of at least one of the first generally hollow projection and the second generally hollow projection;

the raised ring of the first retainer abuts the retaining ridge of the first retainer such that the first retainer facilitates positional adjustment between the connection member and the first generally hollow projection but prevents disengagement of the connection member and the first generally hollow projection; and

the raised ring of the second retainer abuts the retaining ridge of the second retainer such that the second retainer facilitates positional adjustment between the connection member and the second generally hollow projection but prevents disengagement of the connection member and the second generally hollow projection.

App. Serial No.: 10/766,290
Atty. Docket No.: 0059-014P1

19. (currently amended) The communications earpiece of claim 18, wherein:

~~one~~ the first end of the connection member fits over the first generally hollow projection;
and

the ~~other~~ second end of the connection member fits over the second generally hollow projection.

20. (original) The communications earpiece of claim 18, wherein:

the connection member is bent such that the connection member can rotate in relation to the transducer enclosure portion about a first axis; and

the sound horn can rotate in relation to the connection member about a second axis.

21. (original) The communications earpiece of claim 18, wherein:

the second generally hollow projection is elongated such that the connection member can be moved longitudinally along at least a portion of the length of the second generally hollow projection.

22. (canceled)

23. (currently amended) [[A]] The communications earpiece of claim 24, further comprising:

~~a transducer enclosure portion;~~

a transducer housed generally within the transducer enclosure ~~portion~~; and wherein

the ear bud has a sound horn including a reverse horn, the reverse horn having a textured surface and configured for placement in the ear canal of a user, the textured surface operative to vary the amount of occlusion of the ear canal depending on the placement of the sound horn relative to the user's ear canal; ~~wherein and~~

the position of the sound horn is adjustable in relation to the transducer enclosure ~~portion~~ in all three physical dimensions.

App. Serial No.: 10/766,290

Atty. Docket No.: 0059-014P1

24. (currently amended) In a communications earpiece, an improvement comprising:

a connecting tube for connecting and acoustically coupling a transducer enclosure to an ear bud;

an elongated projection connected to at least one of the transducer enclosure and the ear bud for insertion into one end of the connecting tube; and

~~a retainer on at least one of the connecting tube and the elongated projection, the retainer facilitating positional adjustment between the connecting tube and the elongated projection but preventing disengagement of the connecting tube and the elongated projection; including a raised ring on one of the connecting tube and the elongated projection and a retaining ridge on the other of the connecting tube and the elongated projection; and wherein~~

~~the connecting tube can be rotated about the elongated projection; and further wherein~~

~~the connecting tube can be moved longitudinally along at least a portion of the length of the elongated projection; and~~

~~the raised ring abuts the retaining ridge when the connecting tube is moved longitudinally away from the elongated projection such that the retainer facilitates positional adjustment between the connecting tube and the elongated projection but prevents disengagement of the connecting tube and the elongated projection.~~

25. (previously presented) The communications earpiece of claim 23, wherein the reverse horn is flexible.

26. (previously presented) The communications earpiece of claim 23, wherein the textured surface includes grooves.

27. (previously presented) The communications earpiece of claim 23, wherein the textured surface includes ridges.

28. (previously presented) The communications earpiece of claim 23, wherein the textured surface provides more occlusion when it is placed relatively deeper into the ear canal.

App. Serial No.: 10/766,290
Atty. Docket No.: 0059-014P1

29. (new) The communications earpiece of claim 1, wherein the retaining ridge is located adjacent a distal end of the cylindrical end portion of the connection member.
30. (new) The communications earpiece of claim 29, wherein:
the retaining ridge is located around an inner surface of the connection member;
the connection member includes an elongated interior portion adjacent a side of the retaining ridge that is opposite to the distal end of the connection member; and
the raised ring moves longitudinally within the elongated interior portion when the cylindrical projection of the sound horn is inserted in the connection member.
31. (new) The communications earpiece of claim 30, wherein:
the elongated interior portion defines a first interior diameter of said connection member;
the retaining ridge defines a second interior diameter of said connection member; and
the first interior diameter is greater than the second interior diameter.
32. (new) The communications earpiece of claim 30, wherein the raised ring maintains an acoustic seal between the connection member and the cylindrical projection of the sound horn as the raised ring moves longitudinally within the elongated interior portion.
33. (new) The communications earpiece of claim 2, wherein:
the first adjustment means includes a retainer having a raised ring on one of the hollow cylindrical projection on the transducer enclosure and the hollow cylindrical end portion on the connection member and a retaining ridge on the other of the hollow cylindrical projection on the transducer enclosure and the hollow cylindrical end portion on the connection member; and
the raised ring abuts the retaining ridge of the retainer of the first adjustment means when the connection member is moved longitudinally away from the transducer enclosure portion such that the retainer facilitates positional adjustment between the connection member and the transducer enclosure portion but prevents disengagement of the connection member and the transducer enclosure portion.

App. Serial No.: 10/766,290
Atty. Docket No.: 0059-014P1

34. (new) The communications earpiece of claim 24, wherein the retaining ridge is located adjacent a distal end of the connecting tube or the elongated projection.

35. (new) The communications earpiece of claim 34, wherein:

the retaining ridge is located around an inner surface of the connecting tube;

the connecting tube includes an elongated interior portion adjacent a side of the retaining ridge that is opposite to the distal end of the connecting tube; and

the raised ring moves longitudinally within the elongated interior portion when the elongated projection is inserted in the connecting tube.

36. (new) The communications earpiece of claim 35, wherein:

the elongated interior portion defines a first interior diameter of said connecting tube;

the retaining ridge defines a second interior diameter of said connecting tube; and

the first interior diameter is greater than the second interior diameter.

37. (new) The communications earpiece of claim 35, wherein the raised ring maintains an acoustic seal between the connecting tube and the elongated projection as the raised ring moves longitudinally within the elongated interior portion.

App. Serial No.: 10/766,290
Atty. Docket No.: 0059-014P1

38. (new) The communication earpiece of claim 24, wherein the elongated projection is connected to the transducer enclosure, the communication earpiece further comprising:

a second elongated projection connected to the ear bud for insertion into a second end of the connecting tube; and

a second retainer including a raised ring on one of the connecting tube and the second elongated projection and a retaining ridge on the other of the connecting tube and the second elongated projection; and wherein

the connecting tube can be rotated about the second elongated projection;

the connecting tube can be moved longitudinally along at least a portion of the length of the second elongated projection; and

the raised ring of the second retainer abuts the retaining ridge of the second retainer when the connecting tube is moved longitudinally away from the second elongated projection such that the second retainer facilitates positional adjustment between the connecting tube and the second elongated projection but prevents disengagement of the connecting tube and the second elongated projection.

39. (new) The communications earpiece of claim 38, wherein:

the retaining ridge of the retainer is located adjacent a first distal end of the connecting tube around an inner surface of the connecting tube;

the connecting tube includes an elongated interior portion adjacent a side of the retaining ridge of the retainer that is opposite to the first distal end of the connecting tube;

the raised ring of the retainer moves longitudinally within the elongated interior portion when the elongated projection is inserted in the first distal end of the connecting tube;

the retaining ridge of the second retainer is located adjacent a second distal end of the connecting tube around the inner surface of the connecting tube;

the connecting tube includes a second elongated interior portion adjacent a side of the retaining ridge of the second retainer that is opposite to the second distal end of the connecting tube; and

the raised ring of the second retainer moves longitudinally within the second elongated interior portion when the second elongated projection is inserted in the second distal end of the connecting tube.